R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct the informalities pointed out by the Examiner. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite the features of the present invention whereby the controller performs control to: (i) form originals constituted by a bundle of pages <u>within one job</u> into a plurality of groups in printing copied images from the originals constituted by the bundle of pages <u>within the one job</u>, (ii) make the setting device set different image printing conditions for each group <u>within the one job</u>, (iii) make the image reader read images on originals for each group when the read start button is pressed, (iv) make the storage store the original images <u>as the one job</u>, and (v) make the image printing device print copied images for each group in accordance with the different image printing conditions set for each group <u>within the</u>

<u>one job</u> with respect to all the groups <u>within the one job</u> when the image printing start button is pressed. See the disclosure in Figs. 6A-6B and 7A-7C and in the specification at, for example, page 22, line 19 to page 23, line 5, and page 29, line 16 to page 32, line 5.

In addition, the claims have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better U.S. form.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

<u>THE PRIOR ART REJECTION</u>

Claims 1-3, 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by US 2004/0107854 ("Nakatani et al"), and claims 4 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Nakatani et al with one or more of US 2003/0054008 ("Aikawa"), US 2003/0016391 ("Tamura"), and US 2002/0051207 ("Ohkubo et al"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

As pointed out hereinabove, according to the present invention as recited in amended claim 1, the controller performs control to: (i) form originals constituted by a bundle of pages

within one job into a plurality of groups in printing copied

images from the originals constituted by the bundle of pages

within the one job, (ii) make the setting device set different

image printing conditions for each group within the one job,

(iii) make the image reader read images on originals for each

group when the read start button is pressed, (iv) make the

storage store the original images as the one job, and (v) make

the image printing device print copied images for each group in

accordance with the different image printing conditions set for

each group within the one job with respect to all the groups

within the one job when the image printing start button is

pressed.

     With the structure of the claimed present invention, even

when different image printing conditions need to be specified for

different groups of pages within a single job, a user can easily

specify the different image printing conditions for the different

groups in a single printing operation. For example, as shown in

Fig. 7A of the present application, in a (single) print job of 5

pages, for a first group of the first 3 pages the user can select

an image processing condition of, for example, EXECUTION OF PUNCH

PROCESSING, and for a second group of the next (last) 2 pages,

the user can select an image processing condition of, for

example, NONEXECUTION OF PUNCH PROCESSING and of printing two

copies of (the two pages in) the second group. That is, with the

structure of the claimed present invention, an advantageous effect is achieved whereby the user can efficiently set image printing conditions on a page/group basis and perform image printing (in a _single_ printing operation) based on the different image printing conditions.

By contrast, Nakatani et al is merely directed towards setting the limited output sheets number "a" and the output copies number "b" in order to calculate, based on the set numbers "a" and "b" and the (actual) documents number "c", a print document pages number "d" which is a number of original images ("c") that should be printed out on each output sheet ("a"). That is, Nakatani et al is merely directed towards reducing the number of pages used in a single print job by printing multiple (reduced) original pages on a single output printed page. See Figs. 1 and 4, and the abstract of Nakatani et al.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that Nakatani et al is not at all related to specifying different image printing conditions for different groups of pages within a single job and printing the different page groups of the single job according to corresponding image printing conditions in a single printing operation as according to the claimed present invention. And it is respectfully submitted that Nakatani et al does not disclose, teach or suggest the features of the controller of the present invention as recited in amended claim 1 whereby control is

-10-

performed to form the pages of one (single) job into plural groups, and different image printing conditions for each of the plural groups within the one job are set, and printing of each of the plural groups within the one job is performed in accordance with the different respective image printing conditions. And it is also respectfully submitted that Nakatani et al cannot achieve the advantageous effect of the claimed present invention of allowing a user to efficiently set image printing conditions on a page/group basis and perform image printing (in a single printing operation) based on the different image printing conditions.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in amended claim 1 and claims 2-9 depending therefrom clearly patentably distinguishes over Nakatani et al, taken singly or in combination with any of the other cited references, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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